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# 04/14/1989 - Womens Studies Council Honors Area Women

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

WOMEN'S STUDIES COUNCIL HONORS AREA WOMEN

CHARLESTON, IL-- Eastern Illinois University's Women's Studies Council recently honored five area women at its 9th annual awards banquet.

The Council presented certificates of recognition to three women who have made significant contributions to the university and/or the larger community. The Council especially seeks to honor those whose actions and examples have helped to advance the status of women or to improve the quality of women's lives.

Recognized as "Women of Achievement" this year were two Eastern Illinois University students, Debra Camren and Cynthia Jackson, and Charleston resident Virginia Davis.

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The Council also honored the winners of the annual Women's Studies Writing Award. This award, open to all currently enrolled students, was established in 1987 to encourage scholarship and writing in areas related to women.

Receiving awards for their essays were students James Roger Conley and Peggy L. Currid.

Camren, a senior Personnel Management major was selected for her work in campus politics and other student-related activities, especially those with a service orientation.

An honors student, she was elected to two terms as student senator and was elected Student Body President 1987-88. She has also served on numerous student-faculty committees, including the Affirmative Action Advisory Committee.

She is currently very active in BACCHUS, a student alcohol-awareness organization, and in other activities aimed at remedying the problem of alcohol abuse in the campus setting.

Cynthia Jackson, also a senior at Eastern, was honored for her work with the University Board and involvement in activities related to prevention of sexual assault.

Jackson also chairs the Human Potential Committee of the University Board, an organization which promotes events of special relevance to minorities. In that position she has helped negotiate and implement some of the events for Black History Month, in cooperation with the Black Student Union.

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WOMEN'S STUDIES COUNCIL

Charleston resident Virginia Davis was also designated a "Woman of Achievement" for her many community service activities over the past fifteen years. A partial list of the volunteer services includes coordinating the Coles County Help and Crisis Line for thirteen years, serving on the Board of Directors of Eastern Coles United Way since 1975, and co-chairing the Good Samaritan program, in cooperation with the Charleston Civics Association.

Davis is deeply involved in rehabilitation work with inmates in various correctional institutions, providing them with information and practical assistance designed to help them reenter society upon release.

In the Women's Studies Writing Competition, Conley, a senior Political Science student and member of the debate team, received first prize for his essay on the importance of including women in economic aid programs to developing nations.

Currid, a senior in Junior High Education with emphasis in History and English, received honorable mention for her essay on the status and role of women in the Soviet Union.